

**For:** Ballston Spa Film Festival  
Ballston Spa Business & Professional Association  
<http://www.bspafilm.org>  
<http://www.ballston.org>

**Contact:** Pam Grandin, BSFF Director, 518-xxx-xxxx  
[xx@xxx.org](mailto:xx@xxx.org)  
Ellen Mottola, BSBPA Executive Admin. Asst., 518-xxx-xxxx  
[xx@xxx.org](mailto:xx@xxx.org)

**From:** Silverpen Productions  
2 Greenfield Manor Rd.  
Porter Corners, NY 12859  
[www.silverpenproductions.com](http://www.silverpenproductions.com)  
518-330-3685

**Contact:** Jenna Caputo  
[jenna@silverpenproductions.com](mailto:jenna@silverpenproductions.com)



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**BALLSTON SPA FILM FESTIVAL RECEIVES TWO GRANTS IN A HUGE SHOW OF  
SUPPORT**

The Ballston Spa International Film Festival (BSFF) recently received two grants to help fund its 2012 festival – The Saratoga Gaming and Raceway Foundation Grant and the Saratoga County Program for Arts Funding (SPAF) & The Arts-In-Education Local Capacity Building Grant.

The Saratoga Gaming and Raceway Foundation states that the purpose of its grant is “for the support of charitable and public benefit organizations whose mission is the betterment of the quality of life, health and welfare of the residents of Saratoga County... [with] activities that address problem gambling, support youth, senior citizens, recreation, arts and community

**More**

benefit.

Since founder Daniel DeFabio started the BSFF in 2008, the festival has consistently provided high quality family entertainment, while also being an educational arena for area students and both amateur and professional filmmakers. DeFabio used his experience in the entertainment industry to expand the festival into an international venue for short films, attracting filmmakers from places like Australia, Russia, Mexico, Poland, Spain, India, Germany, England, Turkey Ireland, Canada, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, New Guinea, and Indonesia as well as some big names from Hollywood. Catering to both filmmakers and film lovers with free admission screenings, films judged by Hollywood professionals, live entertainment, workshops, discussion panels, after parties, and networking opportunities, past festival winners have also gone on to win big awards at other festivals, including a nomination at the Academy Awards (“French Roast”, 2009, by Fabrice Joubert).

The judges are all Hollywood veterans and have worked on films like *Rudy*, *Silence of the Lambs*, *Mystic Pizza*, *Manchurian Candidate*, *Doc Hollywood*, and *Any Given Sunday*, among others. Each year, more films are submitted and new events are added to the 2 day festival. The BSFF also now has a Facebook page as well as a Facebook Group with well over 400 members and counting.

The national and international promotional partnerships, along with BSFF's growing reputation within the industry are exponentially raising not only the professionalism and quality of the entries, but the local business opportunities and the attendance numbers as well – currently reaching into the thousands. These grant awards are instrumental in the festival being able to continue the momentum forward to provide quality, family-oriented options for the Capital Region. In addition to sponsorship from local businesses, the money from these grants is used to fund all aspects of the festival and any proceeds go toward future arts events for the community.

The 2012 SPAF grant awards ceremony will be held on Tuesday, March 6<sup>th</sup>, 6-8:00pm at the Arts Center on 320 Broadway in Saratoga. The ceremony will allow the successful grantees to share information about their programs and select awardees will also perform.

To receive more information on the BSFF, their events, or how to become a sponsor, visit <http://www.bspafilm.org>, join the mailing list, and “Like” the Facebook page for exclusive details.

The BSFF is presented by the Ballston Spa Business and Professional Association, a non-profit community organization committed to making the Village of Ballston Spa a better place to live and work, and to bringing quality arts and entertainment events for all ages to the community. Funded in part by the Saratoga Program for Arts Funding (SPAF), part of the Decentralization Program, a regional Program of the NYS Council on the Arts administered by Saratoga Arts. All proceeds go toward future festivals and other community events presented by the Ballston Spa Business & Professional Association. For more information on events, the 2012 film festival, or sponsorship, go to <http://www.bspafilm.org>.

###

